

Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 00603 302248Z
ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 OMB-01 ACDA-12 HA-05 DOE-11 SOE-02
/105 W

-----094250 310605Z /17

R 302200Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7120
INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PBOR PEPR EC PE
SUBJ: ECUADOR-PERU BORDER TALKS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE AYALA HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 25 TO COMMENT ON DECLARATIONS MADE BY PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER JOSE DE LA PUENTE EARLIER THE SAME DAY. WIRE SERVICE REPORTS QUOTED DE LA PUENTE AS SAYING THAT THE RECENT BORDER INCIDENTS WERE THE RESULT OF UNDEFINED BORDER AREAS AND THAT "THE BORDER DEMARCATION PROBLEMS BETWEEN ECUADOR AND PERU CAN BE OVERCOME IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TREATIES IN FORCE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES". HE EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT ALL PROBLEMS RELATED TO DEMARCATION "WILL BE RESOLVED VIA DIPLOMATIC DIALOGUE".

2. AYALA LIMITED HIS REMARKS TO THE PRESS TO A COMMENT THAT ECUADOR AND PERU HAD BEEN "CARRYING ON PRELIMINARY CONVERSATIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF SEEKING A FORMULA WHICH WOULD PERMIT ARRIVING AT A JUST SOLUTION OF THE WELL-KNOWN BORDER PROBLEMS". AND THAT THE MINISTRY IS NOW AWAITING WORD FROM THE PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ON ITS POINT OF VIEW ON CONTINUATION OF THOSE TALKS.

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3. COMMENT: THIS EXCHANGE RECEIVED HEADLINE TREATMENT IN MOST LOCAL PAPERS. DE LA PUENTE'S COMMENTS HAVE RELIEVED FEARS OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HERE THAT THE JANUARY BORDER INCIDENT PROBLEM WOULD BE SEIZED UPON BY THE GOP AS AN EXCUSE TO BREAK OFF BORDER TALKS. AT THE SAME TIME, HIS COMMENT THAT THE SOLUTION CAN BE FOUND IN

ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING TREATIES IS SEEN AS A REFERENCE
TO THE RIO PROTOCOL AND THUS RAISES SOME CONCERN ABOUT
THE GOP'S WILLINGNESS TO CONCEDE ON ECUADOREAN ACCESS
TO THE AMAZON. THUS AYALA'S RESPONSE, WAS CAUTIOUS IN
TONE AND LEFT IT FOR THE GOP TO CLARIFY WHERE THE TALKS
WILL GO FROM HERE. AT LEAST, IT APPEARS, THEY WILL
CONTINUE.
CORR

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Message Attributes

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Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS CONFERENCES, BORDER INCIDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: PBOR, PEPR, EC, PE, (DE LA PUENTE, JOSE)
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